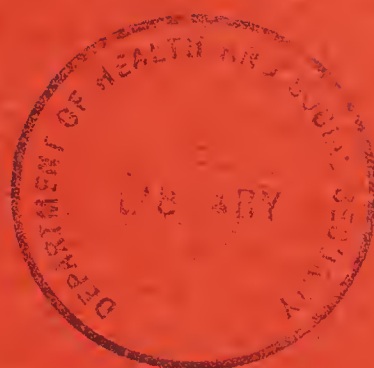


DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE
1968
ANNUAL REPORT
for
THE DISTRICT

by

T. A. PLUMLEY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

E. A. ATKINSON, M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Public Health Department
Council Offices
Massetts Road
HORLEY, Surrey

Telephone Horley 2502

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The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical staff act in a similar capacity for the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts.

The Chief Public Health Inspector also acts as Housing Officer to the Rural District Council.

THE RED HOUSE,
LEATHERHEAD,
SURREY.

July 1969.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour and the great pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the District during 1968. This was a year when much of our attention was drawn to the wonder of space travel, including the possibility of life on other planets. It is not inconceivable that health conditions on earth would compare unfavourably with those on other celestial bodies. Indeed the immigrant Martian and Venusian might well be appalled by our standards of food hygiene or sanitation and wish to remain self-sufficient or to leave this planet as soon as possible.

The birth and death rates do not present me with any really significant changes on which to elaborate. A considerable drop in the number of births might have been anticipated due to the use of oral contraception, but maybe longer established methods have been accepted in the past and still persist in planning family size or perhaps the pill is less acceptable than expected.

Ischaemic heart disease caused more deaths among women than during the previous year, but the vast majority of these deaths were in those aged 65 years and over. Following the normal pattern of mortality, twenty deaths occurred under 65 years in males, the "weaker sex", compared with four in the same age group of women.

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases), Regulations, 1968, consolidated with amendments all previous Regulations relating to the notification of and prevention of infectious disease. Some of the previous notifiable diseases such as acute primary pneumonia, erysipelas, acute rheumatism, and puerperal pyrexia are no longer listed, and all forms of acute meningitis, infective jaundice, leptospirosis and tetanus are now notifiable. These Regulations took effect as from the 1st October, 1968. As a result we are becoming more aware of cases of viral meningitis and infective jaundice in the rural district, but happily the incidence has so far been very low. I am of the opinion that brucellosis should have been made a notifiable disease under the new regulations as the true incidence of this disease is unknown. Measles vaccination was started during the year and the resulting effect upon this type of infection is awaited with interest.

I cannot conclude my Annual Report without a reference to the September floods which came upon the district so quickly and with so little warning. Horley was virtually isolated and with the complete breakdown in telephonic communications great difficulties arose. The Horley St. John Ambulance Brigade reacted magnificently in opening their hall as an emergency rest centre and in finding temporary accommodation in the homes of the more fortunate residents in Horley. I wish to thank the Brigade and any other individuals or organisations who helped at this critical time. Immediate efforts were made by members of the Council staff, including the Public Health Department, to pinpoint the most affected areas, so that as soon as the floods had subsided, houses were dried out. Disinfection was carried out where necessary as there were a number of complaints regarding nuisance arising from contamination by flood water. Difficult decisions had also to be made about the future use

of affected furniture and carpets. The potential contamination of food and drink had also to be kept very much in mind and where the slightest doubt existed these items were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

I am very grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and other members of the Council for their interest and ready help in the Department's work. My thanks are also due to the other Chief Officers and their respective staffs; especially Mr. E. A. Atkinson, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and the staff of the Public Health Department who have had an increasingly busy year. Finally, without my own enthusiastic and loyal office staff at the Red House, Leatherhead, to support me during the year I could have been in a sorry state.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. A. PLUMLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1968

1. VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	1968	1967	1938
Area (acres)	53,943	53,943	53,718
Population (Census 1961 and 1931)	31,710	31,710	18,485
Population (estimated mid-year)*	33,860	34,300	20,510
Density (persons per acre)	0.62	0.62	0.38
Number of inhabited houses	11,098	10,811	6,145
Rateable Value	£2,040,818	£2,017,783	£194,941
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£7,950	£7,800	£765

PARISHES COMPRISING THE DISTRICT WITH AREA AND POPULATION (CENSUS 1951 & 1961)

	Area	Population		No. of occupied dwellings		Density (Persons per acre)
		1951	1961	1951	1961	
ABINGER	7,481	1,889	1,926	549	643	0.3
BETCHWORTH	2,562	1,614	1,657	440	524	0.6
BUCKLAND	1,362	640	650	188	212	0.5
CAPEL	5,694	2,386	2,900	718	992	0.5
CHARLWOOD	6,901	2,757	2,801	760	832	0.4
HEADLEY	1,640	591	725	124	199	0.4
HOLMWOOD	3,749	1,084	1,134	285	327	0.3
HORLEY	7,449	11,394	16,052	3,278	5,065	2.2
LEIGH	3,419	820	956	224	290	0.3
NEWDIGATE	4,744	1,220	1,394	365	475	0.3
OCKLEY	3,400	798	855	243	271	0.3
WOTTON	5,542	639	660	191	204	0.1
	53,943	25,832	31,710	7,365	10,034	0.6

*The Registrar General's estimated population of 33,860 at mid-year 1968 has been used for statistical purposes in the preparation of the Report. The mid-1968 estimates incorporate, for the first time, adjustments made by the Registrar General after evaluation of the results of the 1966 Sample Census and a critical review of the previously used net migration figures. This year's estimates are therefore not strictly comparable with those for the previous year (the statutory nature of each year's estimate, which must be made by a given date, precludes the publication of revised Local Authority figures for previous years). Nationally however it is possible to state that the starting figure for the calculation of 1967-68 population change was revised downwards by 90,000 persons (under 0.2 per cent) as a result of the exercise already mentioned.

BIRTHS

Live Births	Total	Male	Female			
Total . .	499	260	239			
Legitimate .	475	251	224			
Illegitimate .	24	9	15			
				1968	1967	1938
Live birth rate per 1,000 population . .				14.7	15.1	14.7
Standardised birth rate				14.7	15.1	*
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births				4.8	6.6	*
Still Births	Total	Male	Female			
	5	4	1			
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births				10.0	13.3	50.3

DEATHS

	Total	Male	Female			
Total . .	336	169	167			
				1968	1967	1938
Crude death rate per 1,000 population .				9.9	9.0	11.1
Standardised death rate				10.8	9.8	9.7

Deaths of all Infants under 1 year of age

	Total	Male	Female			
Total . .	5	4	1			
Legitimate .	5	4	1			
Illegitimate .	—	—	—			
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births:						
Live				10.0	17.3	49.7
Legitimate				10.5	18.5	51.6
Illegitimate				—	—	—

Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age: 5			
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	10.0	11.5	*

Early Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 week of age: 5			
Early neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	10.0	9.6	*
Standardised rate for England and Wales .	*	10.8	*

Perinatal Mortality

Still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live and still births	20.0	22.8	*
Standardised rate for England and Wales .	*	25.4	*

Maternal Deaths (including abortions)

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	—	—	—
---	---	---	---

* Not available

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 499. The crude birth rate for the year was 14.7. Details such as age and sex distribution affect local birth rates and invalidate comparison with the rates of other districts in England and Wales. To overcome this a comparability factor is supplied by the Registrar General which, when applied to the crude birth rate, gives a figure which may be used for purposes of comparison. For 1968 the factor given was 1.00 and the crude and standardised birth rates were, therefore, identical. Comparison of the rate with past years is shown in the table on page 13. The standardised birth rate for England and Wales in 1968 was 16.9.

Twenty-four births were registered as illegitimate, the percentage of illegitimate to legitimate births was 4.8 compared with 6.6. in 1967.

There were 5 still births compared with 7 in 1967, giving a still birth rate of 10.0.

DEATHS

Deaths assigned to the area numbered 336 representing a crude death rate of 9.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. A comparability factor (1.09) has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death rate for use in comparing the local death rate with those of other areas in England and Wales. The factor makes allowance for the differing age and sex distribution of local populations. Application of the factor to the local rate increased it from 9.9 to 10.8. This compares favourably with the standardised rate of 11.9 for England and Wales.

Deaths due to Cancer
(including Mortality Rates for Lung Cancer from 1950)

	All Cancer		Lung Cancer	
	Total Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 population	Male % of Deaths
1901-1910	105	1.0		
1911-1920	134	1.4		
1921-1925	82	1.6		
1926-1935	229	1.7		
1936-1945	404	1.8		
1946-1949	148	1.5		
1950-1955	284	1.8	0.1	85.5
1956-1960	164	1.8	0.3	84.9
1961-1965	287	1.7	0.5	84.1
1966	80	2.3	0.5	88.2
1967	67	1.9	0.5	77.7
1968	65	1.9	0.4	71.4

Deaths due to Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels
(including Mortality Rates for Coronary Disease from 1950)

	All Diseases Heart & Blood Vessels		Coronary Disease	
	<i>Total Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>	<i>Male % of Deaths</i>
1927–1935	482	3.8		
1936–1945	1,137	5.3		
1946–1949	466	4.8		
1950–1955	861	5.3	1.3	63.9
1956–1960	353	5.0	1.4	58.5
1961–1965	788	4.8	1.7	63.6
1966	140	4.1	1.4	70.0
1967	174	5.1	1.8	72.1
1968	166	4.9	2.9	53.3

Infant Mortality

Deaths of children under the age of 1 year numbered 5 and the infant mortality rate was 10.0 per 1,000 live births. The rate for England and Wales was 18.0. All deaths occurred within the first week of life.

In the table on page 13 the infant mortality rates from 1931 are set out with the national figures for comparison.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>1968</i>	<i>1967</i>
Congenital Abnormalities	–	2
Prematurity	1	3
Broncho-pneumonia	–	1
Heart failure	2	1
Septicaemia	–	2
Asphyxia	1	–
Intra Uterine Anoxia	1	–
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 9

Maternal Mortality

There was no death attributed to maternal causes. The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 0.18.

Road Accidents

Nine residents died as a result of injuries received in road accidents, compared with 6 in 1967. Four were pedestrians at the time of the accident.

<i>Age group</i>	<i>1968</i>	<i>1967</i>
9–14 years	1	–
15–24 years	1	2
25–34 years	1	2
35–44 years	–	1
45–54 years	1	–
55–64 years	3	–
75 and over	2	1
	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 6

Other Accidents

Deaths numbered 4 due to a fractured spine, a fractured skull, asphyxia when a trench caved in, and acute anaphylaxis respectively.

<i>Age group</i>	<i>1968</i>	<i>1967</i>
35-44 years	1	—
45-54 years	1	1
55-64 years	1	1
75 years and over	1	—
	—	—
	4	2

Suicide

There were 3 deaths certified as having been caused by suicide, one due to barbiturate poisoning, one to carbon monoxide poisoning, and one due to an incised wound of the arm.

<i>Age group</i>	<i>1968</i>	<i>1967</i>
25-34 years	—	1
45-54 years	1	—
55-64 years	2	1
65-74 years	—	2
	—	—
	3	4

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING AND HORLEY
RURAL DISTRICT

	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Total all ages</i>	<i>4 wks. -4 wks.</i>	<i>1- yr.</i>	<i>1-</i>	<i>5-</i>	<i>15-</i>	<i>25-</i>	<i>35-</i>	<i>45-</i>	<i>55-</i>	<i>65-</i>	<i>75 & over</i>
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Malignant neoplasm—Stomach	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Malignant neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	M	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	5
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Malignant neoplasm—Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	1
Malignant neoplasm—Uterus	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Leukaemia	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	M	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	6	1
	F	17	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	2	8
Diabetes Mellitus	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Anaemias	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mental Disorders	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hypertensive Disease	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	16	8	20
	F	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	11	27
Other forms of Heart Disease	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3
	F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7

	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Total all ages</i>	<i>-4 wks.</i>	<i>4 wks. -1 yr.</i>	<i>1-</i>	<i>5-</i>	<i>15-</i>	<i>25-</i>	<i>35-</i>	<i>45-</i>	<i>55-</i>	<i>65-</i>	<i>75 & over</i>
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	16	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	4	6
	F	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	16
Other Disease of Circulatory System	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—
	F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	6
Influenza	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	M	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5
	F	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	5	15
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	4	6
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Asthma	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peptic Ulcer	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Other Disease of Digestive System	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Congenital Anomalies	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	4	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
	F	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
All other Accidents	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other External Causes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<hr/>													
TOTAL—All Causes	M	169	4	—	1	1	1	3	4	10	47	43	55
	F	167	1	—	—	1	1	1	3	7	19	34	100

COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH, AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1931-1968

(Decennial Averages, 1931-60. Annual, 1961-68)

Year	Birth Rates per 1,000 population			Death Rates per 1,000 population			Mortality Rate of Children under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births		
	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley		England and Wales	Dorking and Horley		England and Wales	Dorking and Horley	No. of Deaths
1931 - 1940	14.9	14.1		12.2	12.0		58.7	45.3	
1941 - 1950	16.9	17.4		12.3	11.3		43.1	32.0	
1951 - 1960	15.8	16.8		11.6	10.0		24.8	16.9	
1961	17.4	17.3		12.0	10.0		21.6	20.1	11
1962	18.0	18.6		11.9	9.9		21.6	13.2	8
1963	18.2	17.7		12.2	11.2		21.1	17.5	16
1964	18.4	19.6		11.3	10.2		20.0	4.6	3
1965	18.1	17.0		11.5	10.3		19.0	19.0	11
1966	17.7	16.1		11.7	9.3		19.0	10.7	6
1967	17.2	15.1		11.2	9.0		18.3	17.3	9
1968	16.9	14.7		11.9	9.9		18.0	10.0	5

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Horley and District Cottage Hospital is the only hospital situated in the district. It has a bed complement of 16 and is staffed by the local general practitioners with a panel of consultants whose services can be called upon if necessary.

The Dorking General Hospital and the Redhill General Hospital, together with its branch at Smallfield, provide accommodation for medical, surgical, geriatric and maternity cases, and it is to these that the majority of patients requiring in-treatment are admitted. Residents of the Parish of Headley are usually accommodated in hospitals in Leatherhead and Epsom.

A patient suffering from an infectious disease and requiring hospitalisation may be admitted to one of a number of hospitals, depending on the accommodation available at the time. Seven such patients were admitted to hospital during 1968.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratories available to medical practitioners are provided at the East Surrey Hospital, the Redhill General Hospital, the Dorking General Hospital, and St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford. Examination of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases are referred to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council, at St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford. One hundred and thirty-eight specimens were taken during the year (282 in 1967) of which seventeen contained infectious organisms (40 in 1967). This laboratory also undertakes bacteriological examinations of samples of water supplies, milk and food, including ice-cream, and biological examinations for tubercle bacilli in milk and the results of these tests are shown in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

I wish to thank Dr. G. T. Cook, the Director, and his staff at St. Luke's Hospital for the most helpful way in which this work has been carried out. Their ready counsel and interest in other Public Health problems are also gratefully acknowledged.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service is a function of the Surrey County Council. The Ambulance Control for the area is at Banstead (telephone Burgh Heath 53491).

MORTUARY FACILITIES

Bodies from the parishes of Horley and Charlwood requiring post mortem examination are received by the mortuary at the Redhill General Hospital.

For the remaining parishes of the Rural District, the mortuary facilities provided by the Epsom District Hospital are available.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

Cremation

Crematoria are available at Randalls Park, Leatherhead, and Worth Park, Crawley, Sussex.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and children, health visiting, midwifery and home nursing, cervical cytology, chiropody, immunisation and vaccination, and home helps is the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration is delegated to the South Eastern Divisional Health and Welfare Sub-Committee and the Divisional Medical Officer, with headquarters at 'Caberfeigh', Hatchlands Road, Redhill (telephone number Redhill 64732).

LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

Maternity and Child Welfare

Betchworth, The Vicarage	Leatherhead, S.C.C. Clinic, The Mansion
Boxhill, St. Andrew's Hall	Leigh, Institute Hall
Brockham, Brockham Homes	Newdigate, Village Hall
Capel, Wesley Hall	Ockley, Village Hall
Charlwood, Parish Hall	North Holmwood, Village Hall
Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene St.	Peaslake, Old School Room
Ewhurst, Village Hall	Salfords, Parish Hall
Headley, Village Hall	Walton-on-the-Hill, Congregational School Rooms
Holmbury St. Mary, Holly Bush	Westcott, Reading Room
Horley, S.C.C. Clinic, Kings Rd.	

Ante-Natal	Dorking General Hospital	Mon. and Tues., 9.30 a.m.
	Epsom District Hospital	Mon., 9.30 a.m.–2.30 p.m., Tues., 1.30 p.m., Wed., 9.30 a.m.
	Horley, S.C.C. Clinic, Kings Rd.	Tuesday mornings, by Appointment
	Leatherhead, The Mansion	1st and 3rd Tues., 1.30 p.m.
	Redhill General Hospital	Tues., 1.30 p.m.
Chest Clinics	Dorking General Hospital	Fri., 9.30 a.m.
	Epsom District Hospital	Mon. and Tues., 2 p.m., 3rd. Thurs., 9.30 a.m.
	Redhill General Hospital	Mon. and Thurs., 2 p.m.
Family Planning	Dorking General Hospital	By Appointment
	Epsom District Hospital	By Appointment
	Horley, S.C.C. Clinic, Kings Rd.	Thurs., 9.30–10 a.m.
	Leatherhead, The Mansion	By Appointment
	Reigate, Health Centre, Shaws Corner	Tues., 6 p.m.–7.30 p.m.
Venereal Diseases	Guildford, Royal Surrey County Hospital	Males: Mon. and Fri., 5 p.m.–7 p.m. Females: Mon. and Thurs., 2.30 p.m.–4.30 p.m.
	Redhill General Hospital	Males: Tues., 5 p.m., Fri., 5 p.m.–7 p.m.
	Sutton, St. Helier Hospital	Males: 10 a.m.–12 noon, Thurs., 4 p.m.–6 p.m.
		Females: Tues., 5 p.m.–6.45 p.m., Fri., 2 p.m.–4 p.m.
		(And at the Out-Patient Department of many London Hospitals)

Other Clinics

Chiropody	By Appointment	} Divisional Health Office, Redhill (Tel. No. Redhill 64732)
Dental	„ „	
Remedial Exercises	„ „	
Speech Therapy	„ „	

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, and measles, and smallpox and poliomyelitis vaccination can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health service Act, or on application at the County Council Health Clinics. Poliomyelitis vaccination is restricted to persons aged 40 years and under, though this vaccination is available to people whose occupation is thought to carry additional risk of infection, and also to expectant mothers.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is available at Chest Clinics to contacts in the family of tuberculous persons if preliminary skin testing shows that they have not already been infected. The vaccination of school leavers is carried out by the staff of the Divisional Medical Officer.

HEALTH EDUCATION

In collaboration with the County Health Services, arrangements were made during the year for the display of posters on Council notice-boards, in libraries, and other suitable locations in Council premises.

Public Health Inspectors continued to carry out individual health education with respect to food handlers.

STAFF MEDICALS

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Adviser on staff appointments and sickness.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Family Planning Association

Clinics are available at the Dorking General Hospital, with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent. Clinics are also held at Horley Clinic, Kings Road, Horley, and the Health Centre, Shaws Corner, Reigate. The last two are by appointment only. During the year a total of 322 visits were made, and these included 92 first visits to the Horley Clinic.

The Samaritans

Branches of 'The Samaritans' are available at 69 Woodbridge Road, Guildford (telephone No. Guildford 2345), at 5 St. Mary's Road, Reigate (telephone No. Reigate 48444), and at 45 Lower Fairfield Road, Leatherhead (telephone No. Leatherhead 5555). Five hundred and forty-three calls were received during the year.

CARE OF THE AGED

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

Section 31—Meals for Old People

The Rural District Council supports the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, the Holmwood Women's Institute, and more recently the Parochial Church Council of Buckland in establishing and maintaining the Meals on Wheels Scheme for the benefit of elderly and handicapped persons in the Parishes of Betchworth, Buckland, Capel, Charlwood, Holmwood, and Horley.

The Council's contribution to the scheme is 2/- per meal, plus the cost of carrying the meals at a rate of 6d. per mile.

In the twelve months ended 31st December, 1968, a total of 5,960 meals were served (1967—5,958 meals) and a total of 4,693 miles were travelled (1967—4,184 miles).

The organisations are to be congratulated on the success of this service which is so effective in helping the elderly to remain in their homes.

Section 47

Under the 1948 Act, power is given to the local authority to apply to the Magistrates' Court for an Order to obtain the removal, for a period not exceeding three months, of persons suffering from chronic illness or infirmity who, for one reason or another, are not receiving proper care and attention, and are unable to manage for themselves. An amending Act, which came into force in 1951, enables authorities to adopt a more expeditious procedure in cases requiring urgent attention.

Section 47 (Second paragraph)

Although no action was taken specifically under this Section during the year, in the case of two elderly ladies it was only by gentle and tactful persuasion that they agreed to admission to hospital.

Section 50

Under the provisions of this section it is the duty of the Council to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if it appears to the authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body has been, or is being undertaken.

During the year the Council was required to exercise this power, and arrange for the funeral of a widow in the Capel area.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Amendment) Act, 1962

Horley Elderly Persons Welfare and Community Care Committee

This Committee continued its invaluable work in helping the elderly in the Horley and surrounding area. Plans are now well advanced for setting up a Day Centre in Horley and it is hoped that such a centre will be operated early in 1969.

3. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES

The East Surrey Water Company provides piped water supplies to ten of the twelve parishes in the Rural District, namely, Betchworth, Buckland, Charlwood, Headley, Horley, Newdigate, Leigh, Holmwood, Capel, and Ockley, and also supplies to the Ranmore area of Wotton.

The Supply to the parishes of Holmwood, Capel, and Ockley is derived from the series of wells sunk into the Folkestone beds on the western outskirts of Dorking. This water is chlorinated but not softened before distribution.

The supply to the remainder of the area is obtained, to a great extent, from deep wells in the chalk on the North Downs, and is softened and chlorinated before distribution. Additional supplies are available from boreholes in the greensand formation.

The West Surrey Water Board supply piped water to the parish of Abinger and to the greater part of the parish of Wotton. This water is obtained from deep boreholes in the greensand located in the Guildford Rural District.

The chemical and bacteriological qualities of the water supplies in both undertakings have remained consistently satisfactory and of a high standard of purity during the year. A trace of fluoride is naturally present.

Extension of Piped Water Supplies

There are still a few areas mainly in isolated parts of the District where water is obtained from wells and springs.

During the course of the year work was concluded by the West Surrey Water Board in extending the main water supply from Forest Green along Holmbury Lane to serve 16 properties in the Parishes of Wotton and Abinger.

At the end of the year a survey was in preparation for extending a water main from Friday Street to the hamlet of Broadmoor, and plans for the extension of the water main to the Leith Hill area were also under consideration.

During the year many private water supplies were sampled for purity, and in cases where the supply was found to be unsatisfactory, advice as to the precautions to be taken was given.

A continuing review of the number of houses with a piped water supply during the year shows the following premises depend upon shallow wells or springs.

	<i>Wells</i>	<i>Springs</i>	<i>No Supply</i>	<i>Total</i>
ABINGER	8	—	—	8
CAPEL	—	7	1	8
HORLEY	3	—	—	3
WOTTON	3	6	—	9
<hr/>				
<i>Total</i>	14	13	1	28

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Briefly the position with regard to the sewerage systems which exist in seven of the twelve parishes is as follows:—

ABINGER

(a) Forest Green

This hamlet is served by a small sewage disposal plant. No extensions to the present system were introduced during the course of the year.

(b) Abinger Hammer

The sewer which serves Abinger Hammer village discharges into the sewers of the Guildford Rural District, and the sewage is eventually treated at the sewage works belonging to the City of Guildford. During the year an extension to the sewer from Abinger Hammer to The Dene in Raikes Lane was completed and nine properties were connected to the new sewer by the end of the year.

BUCKLAND AND BETCHWORTH

Parts of these two Parishes are sewered by a gravitational system to pumping stations where it is pumped into the sewers of the Dorking Urban District Council for treatment by that authority.

CAPEL

The Parish of Capel is served by a small sewage works serving the built-up area of the village and Beare Green.

COLDHARBOUR

No progress was made during the year with the sewerage of this village.

CHARLWOOD

The villages of Charlwood and Lowfield Heath have sewerage systems which eventually discharge to the Horley Sewage Works for treatment.

HOLMWOOD AND NEWDIGATE

The preparation of the scheme for the sewerage of Holmwood and Newdigate proceeded during the year, and various sites were purchased for the construction of pumping stations. It is anticipated that tenders will shortly be invited for this work.

HORLEY

Work was concluded on the second phase of the Horley Town centre surface water sewers, and premises in Victoria Road, High Street, Lumley Road, and Albert Road were connected thereto. Work was concluded on the Komline-Sanderson Sludge drying Coil-Filter at the Horley Sewage Works, Lee Street, Horley.

IRONSBOTTOM

No further progress has been achieved towards the sewerage of this area.

OCKLEY

The Parish of Ockley is served by two small sewage works. There was no extension to the present system during the year.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

The remaining parishes which have no system of main drainage or sewage disposal, depend upon privately owned septic tanks or cesspools in respect of which the Council provides a cesspool cleansing service on the following basis.

The Council undertakes on written request to carry out without charge:—

- (a) Six emptyings per annum in cases of cesspool having a capacity of 2,000 gallons or more.
- (b) The removal of up to a maximum of 12,000 gallons per annum in cases of cesspools having a capacity of less than 2,000 gallons.
- (c) The Council will empty cesspools in excess of the number permitted in (a) and (b) above, for which a charge is made, and subject to the availability of vehicles and staff.

PAIL CLOSETS

During the year 113 premises continued to have their pail closets emptied by the Cleansing Service (Southern Counties) Ltd., Botley, Southampton.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Greater London Council, who are now responsible for refuse disposal in the London area, continued to tip household refuse in a 'worked out' sandpit in the Parish of Buckland.

The general operation of the tip was reasonably satisfactory when operations were resumed early in the year.

Planning permission was granted for additional area of land to be used for tipping, and towards the end of this year the area was rapidly becoming filled. At present this tip is used by the Rural District Council for disposing of pulverised refuse.

During the year negotiations took place with neighbouring authorities, namely: Borough of Reigate and Caterham and Warlingham U.D.C. for the use of a tip in South Nutfield.

So far as the Rural District is concerned, refuse in the parishes of Horley, Charlwood, and Holmwood is collected weekly and in the remainder of the district fortnightly.

Disposal of refuse from certain Western Parishes is to the controlled tip owned and operated by Dorking Urban District Council.

RIVERS, STREAMS, AND DITCHES

During the year approximately 2,000 yards of ditches were cleared in the District, principally in the parishes of Horley and Betchworth.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are now no open-air swimming pools in the Rural District open to the public.

Three of the County Council's schools, one in Horley, one in Charlwood, and one in Newdigate are, however, provided with open-air swimming pools.

FLOODING

It is perhaps appropriate to mention that on Sunday, 15th September, 1968, the District, in common with much of South-East England, was subject to two long periods of very heavy rain, which resulted in many parts of the District becoming flooded.

The most serious flooding occurred in the Parishes of Charlwood, Horley, Leigh, and Strood Green, and there were several isolated incidents in the more rural parts of the District. In one pair of cottages at Oakwood Hill the occupants had to be rescued by boat from their bedroom windows. Gatwick Airport was flooded to a depth of 3 feet. All roads leading into Horley were flooded and traffic came to a standstill. Many people who were travelling on the main London to Brighton Road were stranded and the local branch of the St. John's Ambulance service opened their headquarters at St. John's Hall and provided shelter and a large number of emergency meals.

The staff of the Engineer's Department were called out to assist in sand-bagging houses to reduce flooding and a detachment from the Army provided further assistance and radio communications between various parts of the Parish.

As the telephone communications were no longer available at the Council Offices an emergency headquarters was set up on the first floor of the Horley Police Station. This office was manned voluntarily for 24 hours a day by members of the Clerk's, Engineer and Surveyor's, and Public Health and Housing Department, during the period of the emergency.

Several teams of officers visited the various parts of the District to ascertain the extent of the damage to assess measures which could be taken to help people affected by the flooding.

Two dozen heaters were loaned for use in drying out houses which had been flooded, and these were operated by members of the Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

During the emergency it was reported on the radio that the water supplied by the West Surrey Water Board should be boiled, and notices were distributed by members of the Public Health Department to residents in the locality affected, advising them to boil their water until further notice. Precautionary measures were taken in many instances where sewage had overflowed into domestic dwellings, and certain instances where food had become contaminated in food premises, stocks were destroyed.

In conclusion it should be placed on record the good relationship and co-operation which existed between the civil authorities and the voluntary organisations who helped during the emergency.

4.

HOUSING

Returns relating to the inspection of houses and any necessary subsequent action under the Housing and Public Health Acts are now submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. An abridged summary of the figures for the year is set out below.

A. 1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year

(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	38
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	212
2. Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	Nil
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
4. Number of dwelling houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	Nil

B. 1. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer	7
--	---

2. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a) <i>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957</i>	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	14
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	1
(b) By local authority in default of owners	2
(b) <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts</i>	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring to be remedied	4
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By local authority in default of owners	4
(c) <i>Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957</i>	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1

(d) *Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957*

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
2. Number of separate tenements of underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
3. Number of houses in respect of which undertakings were received that the premises would not be re-occupied until made reasonably fit for human habitation	1
4. Number of undertakings cancelled, the premises having been rendered fit for human habitation	1

Additional information relating to the work of the Public Health Department in respect of housing conditions is to be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

C. Medical Assessment of Housing Applicants and Council Tenants

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Advisor with regard to the assessment of housing needs based on the grounds of ill-health.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by local authority	4	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	113	23	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	117	23	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

(Defects discovered at premises on two, three, or more separate occasions are reckoned as two, three, or more cases.)

The figure for the year 1968 is (NIL return).

FACTORY PREMISES

The 117 premises on the Register of Factories at the 31st December, 1968, were as follows:—

	<i>Without Power</i>	<i>With Power</i>
Agricultural Engineers	—	1
Aircraft Servicing Repairs	—	5
Battery Filling	—	1
Boot and Shoe Repairers	—	2
Brickworks	—	6
Builders	—	10
Builders Workshops	—	1
Catering	—	3
Cycle Repairs	—	1
Electrical Engineers	—	4
Engineering, Light	2	24
Exhibition and Display Makers	—	1
Explosives Manufacturers	—	1
Fine Art Stationery Manufacturers	—	1
Furniture and Upholstery	—	2
Garages and Motor Engineers	1	22
Instrument Makers	—	3
Iron and Steel	—	1
Laundries	—	2
Lawn Mower Repairs	—	1
Lime Manufacturers	—	1
Office Equipment Service	—	1
Packing Cases	—	1
Pistol Rocket Manufacturers	—	1
Plastic Manufacturers	—	3
Portable Building Manufacturers	1	—
Printers	—	1
Pumps	—	1
Television Engineers	—	1
Ready Mixed Concrete	—	1
Research Laboratories	—	1
Rubber Tyre Processing	—	4
Tool Makers	—	1
Typewriter Repairs	—	1
	—	—
	4	113

OUTWORKERS

By Section 133 of the Factories Act, 1961, an employer who sends work of certain prescribed classes to workers to be dealt with in their own homes is required to send a list of such works to the Council in February and August of each year, and failure to do so involves a penalty upon conviction. During 1968 there were nine outworkers in the Rural District.

5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Chief Public Health Inspector’s Report contains information on the work done in connection with the inspection of premises used in the preparation of food, with the inspection of food and with the supervision of stores and sale of ice-cream.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The Surrey County Council administer the Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1958, dealing with the adulteration of food. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that a total of 99 samples were taken in this district and submitted for analysis in 1968. Of these, 71 were of milk and the remainder of miscellaneous articles of foodstuffs. All were satisfactory with the exception of one sample of sugar.

Information was also given that within that part of the County in which the County Council acts as Food and Drugs Authority, a total of 931 samples were taken for analysis, including 612 of milk. Twenty-seven samples were found to be adulterated or irregular, nine of these being of milk.

6. PREVENTION OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table below shows the notification rates of infectious diseases. Incidence rates are estimated per 1,000 population. The figures for 1967 and 1938 are reproduced for purpose of comparison.

	Notifications (corrected)		
	1968	1967	1938
Anthrax	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	0.05
Dysentery	0.30	0.76	0.09
Encephalitis	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	0.18	0.69	—
Jaundice	0.03	—	*
Measles	0.59	13.26	*
Meningitis	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	0.03	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	0.18	0.11	0.41
Smallpox	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	*	*
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	0.12	0.17	0.58
Non-Respiratory	—	0.03	0.34
Typhoid Fever	0.03	—	—
Whooping Cough	0.71	0.64	*

**Disease not notifiable at that time*

The tables on pages 28 and 29 show the number of cases of infectious disease notified during 1968, classified according to disease, age, and sex, and by parish.

SCARLET FEVER

Five cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, compared with four in the previous year. The incidence rate was 0.18 per 1,000 population.

WHOOPING COUGH

Twenty-four cases of whooping cough were notified compared with 22 in the previous year. The incidence rate was 0.71 per 1,000 population.

MEASLES

Twenty cases of measles were notified compared with 455 last year, which was an epidemic year. The incidence rate was 0.59 per 1,000 population.

FOOD POISONING

Five cases of food poisoning were notified during the year compared with 24 in 1967. One household, comprising two persons, were infected with *Salmonella* Typhi-murium, one person was infected with *Salmonella* Bradford, and two isolated cases of *Salmonella* Typhi-murium were also notified.

DYSENTERY

Nine cases of Sonne dysentery were notified during the year compared with 26 in 1967. These included seven isolated cases. All the cases occurred in Horley.

PARATYPHOID FEVER

One case was notified during the year. The patient was a student who had been touring in Europe where it is thought he contracted his illness.

TYPHOID FEVER

One case was notified during the year. The patient was a teacher who contracted the disease while on holiday in Italy. Fortunately none of the known contacts were infected and he made a complete recovery from this disease.

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification and Mortality

Four notifications of tuberculosis were received from medical practitioners concerning residents of the District in whom the disease was recognised for the first time.

In the table below the number of new cases notified each year since 1934 have been tabulated. The number of deaths is also included.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Primary Notifications</i>	<i>Notification Rate per 1,000 Population</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Death Rate per 1,000 Population</i>
1934-1938	19	0.77	12	0.62
1939-1943	20	0.90	11	0.46
1944-1948	24	1.05	11	0.48
1949-1953	20	0.73	4	0.16
1954-1958	16	0.57	4	0.13
1959-1963	12	0.38	1	0.04
1964	5	0.15	—	—
1965	9	0.26	3	0.08
1966	7	0.20	1	0.03
1967	7	0.20	1	0.03
1968	4	0.12	—	—

Register of Notified Persons

During the year the names of 12 persons were added to the tuberculosis register and 30 removed. Details of these alterations are as follows:—

<i>Additions to register</i>		<i>Removals from Register</i>	
Primary notifications relating to persons already residing in this district	4	By transfer to other districts	13
Transfer of persons notified in other areas now residing in this district	8	By recovery	16
		By death	1*
	<hr/> 12		<hr/> 30

**In this case the cause of death was not attributed to tuberculosis*

At the end of the year the number of names on the register was 74, compared with 92 in the previous year. The figures since 1960 are given below for purposes of comparison.

1960	162	1964	132
1961	154	1965	122
1962	149	1966	102
1963	141		

Chest Diseases Care Committee

The Council is represented on the voluntary Chest Diseases Care Committees which work in Dorking and Reigate in close association with local chest clinics and hospitals. The assistance granted to tuberculosis persons and their dependants includes the supply of extra nourishment, fuel, bedding, clothes and sick room requisites, etc., and the payment of fares, pocket money, and other incidental expenses which cannot be met from official sources.

Mass Radiography

Information was received from the Medical Director of the Mass Radiography Service that 1,813 examinations were carried out on persons in the Rural District during the year. This figure includes 650 industrial workers.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY PARISHES IN 1968

	ABINGER	BETCHWORTH	BUCKLAND	CAPEL	CHARLWOOD	HEADLEY	HOLMWOOD	HORLEY	LEIGH	NEWDIGATE	OCKLEY	WOTTON
Anthrax . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning . . .	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Jaundice . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Measles . . .	1	2	—	2	—	10	1	2	—	—	2	—
Meningitis . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever . . .	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Smallpox . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary . . .	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough . . .	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	17	—	—	—	—

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE BY AGE AND SEX

	Under 1 year		1 year		2 years		3 years		4 years		5-9		10-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65 years and over		Total all ages both sexes
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	5
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	1	—	2	4	2	1	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	20
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis																							
Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	4
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	5	6	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	24

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
MASSETTS ROAD,
HORLEY, SURREY.

July 1969.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors for the year 1968.

In my report for 1967 I commented on the question of atmospheric pollution from the discharge of unburnt fuel cast-offs from jet aircraft. At that time I had hoped it would be possible to have carried out some research into the nature, quantity and effect of atmospheric pollution from this source. It is a matter for regret that I have to report no progress in this matter.

The Airport has increasingly dominated the thinking and work of the Department; not only has there been expansion of the various activities at the Airport, but the Imported Food Regulations, 1968, imposed an additional burden on the Department. As I reported to the Public Health Committee, officers of Customs and Excise no longer release any food imports except on the certificate of the Public Health Inspector. In the period 1st August to the 31st December, 1968, no fewer than 521 certificates were issued. It is not too early to sound a warning that within the foreseeable future it may well be necessary to have two Public Health Inspectors solely on Airport duties. In the meantime, and in 1968 in particular, the existing staff coped manfully with the problems of imported food, flight meal preparation, aircraft disinsections, and many other facets of the work at the Airport not forgetting the other many aspects of environmental hygiene in the rural district. In this we were fortunate that no major outbreak of infectious illness occurred; our procedures for sampling of milk, water, and ice-cream have been standardised and the two Public Health Assistants have fully justified the confidence placed in them.

The introduction to the Annual Report is very much a personal matter, and as such it is appropriate to mention that the highlight of the year was a meeting of the South Eastern Centre of the Public Health Inspectors Association held at Gatwick Airport by kind permission of the British Airports Authority, when I had the privilege of reading a paper on the work of the Public Health Inspector at the Airport. The paper was very well received by a large audience of Public Health Inspectors and other distinguished persons including the Chairman of the Council, Mr. W. H. Billington, O.B.E., and the Deputy County Medical Officer of Health. A great deal of effort went into the preparation of the paper, and I freely acknowledge the assistance given to me in its preparation by all members of the staff.

We were stunned by the sudden death in February, 1968, of Mr. D. D. Moir, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., the Public Analyst, which deprived the Department of a valued friend and colleague, whose knowledge and advice was so freely and readily available, and whose work did so much to facilitate the task of the Public Health Inspectors.

We are fortunate that his partner, Mr. J. Palgrave, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., has continued in the good work, and I would like to place on record my sincere appreciation of all the help and guidance he has given to the Department.

Nineteen sixty-eight saw the retirement of Miss E. M. Knight, who for sixteen years had been the representative of the Public Health Department at the Dorking Office, and I think this is the appropriate place to record an appreciation of the assistance she gave during that time, not forgetting to mention the willingness and good humour with which she undertook every task given to her. With her retirement the whole of the work of the Public Health Department was transferred to the Council Offices, Massetts Road, Horley.

I would like to conclude these introductory remarks by expressing to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee my appreciation of the interest they have taken in the affairs of the Department, to the Medical Officer of Health my sincere thanks for all the help and advice so freely given, and to the staff of the Department this grateful acknowledgement of their co-operation and loyalty throughout another year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
ERIC A. ATKINSON,
Chief Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

The total number of inspections and visits in 1968 on various matters pertaining to public health was 6,717, which compared with the previous years as follows:—

1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
5,175	5,305	6,629	5,629	6,602	6,504	6,717

The details are as follows:—

<i>Act or Regulation</i>	<i>Nature of Visit</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>
Public Health		
Dwellings		37
Caravans and Sites		220
Water Supply		22
Drainage: Inspections		233
Tests or W.I.P.		111
Cesspools S.T.		201
Closet Accommodation		28
Nuisances: Premises		114
Animals		22
Offensive Trades		—
Dust or Effluvia		11
Ditches		106
Noise		24
Smoke		47
Vermin		43
Miscellaneous		315

<i>Act or Regulation</i>	<i>Nature of Visit</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>
Infectious Disease		
Inquiries: Cases	97
Contacts	7
Rooms Disinfected	83
Path. Specimens taken to Lab.	171
Housing		
Dwellings	140
Overcrowding	35
I.G. Applications	122
I.G. W.I.P.	210
Housing Applications	—
Rent Act	5
Food and Drugs		
Bakehouses	27
Butchers	35
Cafes	46
Canteens: Schools	7
Factories	26
Greengrocers	30
Grocers	77
Dairies and Milkshops	12
Farms and Cow Sheds	3
Fishmongers	26
Ice-cream dealers	38
Kitchens	53
Licensed Premises	82
Slaughterhouses	31
Meat Inspections	520
Unsound Food	78
Other Food Premises	67
Samples: Ice-cream	85
Milk	300
Water: Drinking	181
Swimming Pools	22
Others	4
Mobile Food Vehicles	19
Factories Act		
With Power	60
Without Power	2
Outworkers	3
Gatwick—Health Control		
Disinsection of Aircraft	125
Infectious Disease Enquiries	1
Imported Food	376
Flight Meal Preparation	50
Miscellaneous	27

<i>Act or Regulation</i>	<i>Nature of Visit</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>
Others		
Shops		273
Offices		103
Pet Animals		18
Petrol Installations		296
Pests		1,253
Animal Boarding Establishments		7
		<hr/>
		6,717

DETAILS OF STATUTORY NOTICES, 1968

		<i>Outstanding 31.12.67</i>	<i>Served 1968</i>	<i>Complied with 1968</i>	<i>Outstanding 1968</i>
Public Health Act, 1936					
Unsatisfactory Drainage to buildings					
To repair Closet	S.29	3	—	2	1
Overflowing Cesspool	S.50	1	—	—	1
Abatement of Nuisances	S.92	1	—	—	<hr/>
	S.93	1	1	—	2
Housing Act, 1957					
Notices to Repair unfit dwellings	S.9	2	3	1	4
Time and Place Notices		—	5	—	—
Public Health Act, 1961					
Defects to Premises	S.26	—	—	—	—
Housing Act, 1964					
Compulsory Improvements	S.19	1	2	—	3

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

It was found necessary to write to the occupiers of 42 food premises concerning various matters which were contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The principal conditions found were:—

Cleanliness	21
Hand Washing Facilities	19
First Aid Kit	18
Sanitary Accommodation	2
Heating	—
Dampness	—
Repair	19
Redecoration	5
Personnel	—
Thermometer	4
Ventilation	—
Lack of Protective Clothing	3

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND WATER

Details of samples taken from Milk, Ice-cream, and Water are described as follows.

In the case of unsatisfactory samples, investigation into the causes is undertaken by the Public Health Inspector.

Milk

By the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963, licences to deal in designated milks are issued by the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority for the area. At the request of the County Council, however, routine sampling of milk sold by retail is undertaken by the Public Health Department on their behalf on a chargeable basis.

During the year 173 samples were taken for bacteriological or biological examination with the following results:—

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>Total No.</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
U.H.T.	9	9	—
Pasteurised	141	139	2
Sterilised	10	10	—
Untreated	13	10	3
TOTAL	173	168	5

Ice-cream

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Grade</i>			
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
Ice-cream	91	85	4	2	—

Water

During the year 94 water samples were taken for bacteriological examination with the following results:—

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>Total No.</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Springs	30	18	12
Wells	17	10	7
Main Supply	18	18	—
Boreholes	16	9	7
Reservoirs	8	2	6
Swimming Pools	5	4	1
Streams	—	—	—
TOTAL	94	61	33

In addition, five samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for a chemical examination as to their fitness for human consumption and of these three were found to be satisfactory and two unsatisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963

Charlwood Slaughterhouse

Under the provisions of these Regulations no carcase may leave the slaughterhouse for sale for human consumption unless it has been inspected and stamped with the Inspector's official mark. For this purpose the Council makes a charge of:—

2/6 per horse or bovine animal
 9d. per calf or pig
 6d. per sheep, lamb, or goat

During the year a sum of £338 14s. 7d. was charged for the inspection of carcasses.

So far as conditions in the slaughterhouse are concerned, constant vigilance and attention to detail has successfully minimised the nuisance or inconvenience which a busy slaughterhouse situated in the middle of the village could so easily entail.

Details of Animals inspected at Charlwood Slaughterhouse, 1968

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Others</i>
Number killed and inspected	942	3,164	49	4,383	8
All Diseases except T.B. or C. Bovis					
Whole Carcasses	7	6	—	25	—
Part Carcase	359	9	30	1,656	2
T.B. only					
Whole Carcase	—	—	—	—	—
Part Carcase	—	—	—	—	—
C. Bovis*					
Whole Carcase	—	—	—	—	—
Part Carcase	3	—	—	—	—

* *Cysticercus bovis* is a cyst which develops in the musculature of bovine animals, and if eaten by man in an uncooked or undercooked condition it will cause an infection by a tape-worm *Taenia Saginata*. The cyst in bovine animals is caused by contamination of the pasturage by sewage containing the ovae of the tape-worm.

The emptying of cesspool contents on to pastureland can be a contributory cause for animals being infected in this country.

UN SOUND FOOD

As in previous years a considerable quantity of food found to be unfit was surrendered for destruction or disposal. The principle reasons for the unfitness of canned foodstuffs are burst, blown and leaky tins, and in other foodstuffs, decomposition.

Details of Food Condemned

<i>Type of Food</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Meat	4,301 lb. 13 oz.
Fish	160 lb.
Vegetables	2,219 lb. 10 oz.
Fruit	10,782 lb.
Miscellaneous	2,947 lb. 7 oz.

FOOD COMPLAINTS AND LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

No legal proceedings were instituted during the year.

The Council considered legal action in three instances involving foodstuffs of doubtful quality or condition, but in these cases the retailers concerned were warned that although the Council did not propose to take legal proceedings they did nevertheless take a very serious view of the complaints made.

Specimens of foodstuffs alleged to be unfit for human consumption or to contain foreign bodies are sent to the Public Analyst.

HOUSING

The owners of the following dwellings were invited by means of 'Time and Place Notices' (served under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957) to discuss the conditions of their premises in order that their future could be determined.

Ivy Cottage, Charlwood
1 and 2 Ansells Cottages, Newdigate
2 Jolly Farmer Cottages, Capel
1 and 2 Love Lane, Ockley
32 Albert Road, Horley

There were no Demolition Orders made during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The following Improvement Grants were approved by the Council during 1968.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Discretionary Grants Approved</i>	<i>Total Amount Approved</i>	<i>No. of Standard Grants Approved</i>	<i>Total Amount Approved</i>	<i>Total Amounts Approved</i>
		£		£	£
ABINGER .	16	6,350	2	255	6,605
BETCHWORTH .	1	400	1	155	555
BUCKLAND .	2	539	—	—	539
CAPEL . .	3	1,200	3	639	1,839
CHARLWOOD .	4	1,354	—	—	1,354
NEWDIGATE .	2	800	—	—	800
HEADLEY .	—	—	—	—	—
HOLMWOOD .	1	400	—	—	400
HORLEY .	12	4,306	5	595	4,901
LEIGH . .	—	—	—	—	—
OCKLEY .	5	1,518	2	505	2,023
WOTTON .	3	1,200	—	—	1,200
TOTALS	49	£18,067	13	£2,149	£20,216

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

In the District at the end of the year 1968 the following caravan sites had been licensed:—

	<i>Site</i>	<i>No. of Caravans</i>
ABINGER	Seven Acres, Walliswood*	1
BETCHWORTH	Hartsfield Farm	2
CAPEL	Broome Hall, Coldharbour	1
	Osbrooks Farm, Capel	1
	New Close Farm	56
	Parsonage Farm	1
	Rickwood Caravan Site	102
CHARLWOOD	Longfield Farm	2
	Sundials, Hookwood	8
HEADLEY	Cottages, Boxhill, Tadworth	6

	<i>Site</i>	<i>No. of Caravans</i>
HORLEY	Cambridge Lodge Hotel	80
	<i>Sunnyside, Lee Street</i>	1
	Lonesome Lane Caravan Site, Salfords	3
	<i>Farney Glen, Harrowsley Green, Horley</i>	1
	<i>Pink Barn Stables, Salfords</i>	1
HOLMWOOD	Westleas Farm	1
	<i>Wymbletons Farm</i>	1
LEIGH	Oaklands Bungalow	1
NEWDIGATE	Henfold Farm	1
	Newdigate Caravan Park†	66
	Silver Birches, Mill Lane‡	1
	Five Oaks	1
OCKLEY	Blue Ridges, Van Lane	14
	Blue Ridges, Van Lane	2
SITE OPERATED BY THE COUNCIL		
	Merebank Caravan Site, Capel	21

Those in italics are subject to temporary planning permission

* Recreational Site

† 32 Residential, 34 Recreational

‡ Limited to 100 days per annum

The unlicensed sites within the Rural District are as follows:—

CAPEL	Old Kiln Farm, Capel	39
CHARLWOOD	Site operated by Organisations—exempt from licencing. Site run by Caravan Club	
	Amberley Fields Caravan Site, Lowfield Heath	
HORLEY	Six Bells Caravan Site, Horley	5

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963

This Act came into operation in 1963, and requires that all premises where cats or dogs are boarded for business purposes shall be licensed by the local authority, who may impose conditions relating to the types of accommodation, feeding facilities, prevention of the spread of infectious disease, and precautions against fire.

The local authority may make a charge not exceeding 10/- for the licence. However, in accordance with the Miscellaneous Fees (Variation) Order, 1968, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1968, the fees for animal boarding licences have been raised to £2.

During the year 17 licences were issued and fees amounting to £8 10s. were paid. No applications were received for licences after the 1st April, 1968.

GATWICK AIRPORT

The first full reference to Gatwick Airport appeared in the Annual Report for 1963, although references had been made in pre-war Annual Reports to the medical inspection of aliens by the Medical Officer of Health. The Annual Report for 1963 referred to the inspection of imported food, and the disinsecting of aircraft. In 1963 imported foods examined included: Apricots, Avocado Pears, Strawberries, Tomatoes, Grapes, Melons, and Mangoes. In 1968 the

list is far larger, and with the large immigrant population in the country, vegetables and fruits hitherto unknown to the indigent population, are arriving almost daily, certainly weekly. Thus we are now inspecting Pineapples, Chillies, Dhudi, Pimentos, Physalis, Ockra, Pates, Salami, Green Ginger, Breakfast Cereals; a never-ending list reflecting the increasing variety in the country's larder.

Reference has been made elsewhere to the bacteriological condition of certain continental pates, and the experiences encountered have shown just how necessary it is to maintain a close watch upon food imports. As a result of representations made to the importer and exporter and to the enquiries made by the veterinary service in the country concerned the bacteriological standard of the pates has been very considerably improved, and the improvement is being maintained.

In 1968 the new Imported Food Regulations, mentioned in the preface to the report, came into operation, and imposed a great burden on the already busy department, requiring both night-time and weekend visits to the Airport. Hitherto the Customs and Excise Officer had a discretion whether or not he called the attention of the Public Health Inspector to any consignment of food, but the new Regulations required that Customs Officers could not release any foodstuffs unless a certificate authorising its removal had been given by the Public Health Inspector. Every effort is made to see that perishable food imports are not delayed and get to market in the shortest possible time. I believe that the speed of transit of foodstuffs through the airport is unrivalled anywhere in the country; if such be the case, then it only remains to be said that this high standard of itself will impose problems if it is to be maintained.

Considerable assistance has been given by the Public Analyst Mr. J. Palgrave, and I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of all his help and advice.

The Department has continued to provide facilities for the disinsection of aircraft in accordance with World Health Organisation standards, and as required by certain overseas territories, namely, America, Canada, India, and Pakistan.

In 1963 the disinsection of Boeing 707's, D.C.6's, and 4's was recorded, in 1968 VC.10's are added to the list, and Jumbo Jets are in the offing. Indeed, in our 'starry-eyed' moments (i.e. night visits) we wonder how long it will be before we are asked to disinsect a moonship!!

As more and more inter-continental airlines use Gatwick Airport so the increase in the demand for disinsection will continue. The following table shows the number of aircraft treated since 1960.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. Disinsected by P.H. Dept. and Certificates Issued</i>	<i>No. Disinsected by Airline and Certificate given by P.H. Dept.</i>
1960	5	0
1961	10	0
1962	13	0
1963	21	2
1964	11	2
1965	24	4
1966	5	14
1967	12	9
1968	56	48
	157	80
Total Certificates issued=237		

Although inspection of food and disinsection of aircraft are major pre-occupations, a great deal of other work is called for, notably, supervision of flight meal kitchens (over two million meal trays prepared in 1968), other food premises on the Airport, the administration of the Offices, Shops, and Railway Premises Act, the licensing of fuel storage depots, etc.

To sum up, the Department has good reason to be more than conscious of the presence of a large international airport in a pleasant rural district in mid-Surrey.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following return relates to work carried out under this Act for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1968.

The total number of complaints in the District for 1968 was 248 and for this service a total of £360 9s. 6d. was collected.

During the year business premises were encouraged to use the Council's services for the control of rats and mice on a contractual basis, and in fact towards the end of the year contracts worth £168 were accepted.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	<i>Non Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
1. Number of properties in District	12,290	439
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	217	30
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	172	17
(ii) Mice	45	9
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	214	29
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	33	4
(ii) Mice	8	—

OFFICES, SHOPS, AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Progress in the inspection of offices and shop premises continued through the year and 145 premises were visited. Of these premises 42 were found to have minor infringements of the Act as follows:—

Unsatisfactory ventilation	2
No thermometer provided	14
No First Aid box	25
Lack of cleanliness	7
In need of decoration	6
Unsatisfactory lighting	1
No washing facilities	9
Overcrowding	3
Insufficient W.C.s	4
Worn or defective flooring	1
Disrepair to premises	8
No constant supply of hot water	2
No heating	2
Insufficient guarding of machinery	3
Insufficient fire extinguishers	1

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DYER AND SON
LEATHERHEAD